

both the flight engineer and top turret gunner on a Boeing B-17G Flying Fortress. Sergeant Lawruk and his fellow crewmen were part of the 327th Bombardment Squadron, 92nd Bomb Group, known as Fame's Favored Few.

His squadron's mission on D-Day was to target and destroy the marshalling yards and industrial center at Thury-Harcourt in Normandy, France. As the dorsal turret gunner, Sergeant Lawruk manned twin 50-caliber machineguns located just above the cockpit of his bomber.

"I saw all the ships go across the channel," Stan said in a 2014 interview. "They were so thick, you could almost walk across the channel [on them]. And you could see the troops." Sergeant Stan Lawruk survived D-Day and the many follow-on missions of the Normandy campaign. After more than 20 combat flights, Lucky Lawruk had earned his nickname.

On his 26th mission, Stan Lawruk's luck ran out. On August 25, 1944, Stan's B-17 was on a bombing mission to destroy a V-2 rocket experimental station located along the coast of Peenemünde, Germany. There, his Flying Fortress fell victim to anti-aircraft batteries below.

"A direct hit blew off the propeller on our number four engine. That in turn tore a large hole in our right wing," Stan said in a 1945 newspaper interview. "Another hit put our number three engine on fire and set another windmilling. We lost altitude rapidly."

Stan and his fellow wingmen were instructed to bail out over Germany; however, they decided to stick with the plane if possible. "Over the Baltic we started to toss out everything we could move or pry loose," Stan said in 1945, stating that he even tried to drop the ball turret. "I didn't have a chance to finish the job before I jumped to my crash position. We came down in a slight crash near a fishing village. None of the crew was hurt."

A declassified document, Missing Air Crew Report 8275, recently found in the National Archives, verifies that all nine crew members survived the force of the crash landing near Sovde, Sweden. Weather conditions and visibility were described as "cloudy smooth." The bomber, numbered 43-37596, was last sighted at "1322 hours" that day.

Stan and his crew were rescued by Swedish troops and Red Cross workers; however, the American airmen would remain in neutral Sweden for 6 months. The bomber crew were considered prisoners of war until repatriated back to England. Stan, who originally enlisted in January 1943, remained in the U.S. Army Air Corps until he was honorably discharged at New Castle Army Airfield in October 1945.

After World War II, Stan did what many GIs did upon returning home. He picked up where he left off before the war. Stan went back to his grocery job at the American Store, now known as ACME, located at Chestnut and Franklin Streets in Wilmington.

Shortly thereafter, Stan Lawruk married Pearl DeLucia in November 1946. Together Stan and Pearl raised three children: Kathy, Stan, and Tim. Stan eventually landed a delivery job with the Tasty Baking Company, the maker of Tastykake treats. He worked there for 35 years until retirement. Topping that record was the nearly 69 years of marriage shared by Stan and Pearl Lawruk. His beloved wife passed away in 2015.

Stan, who just celebrated his 95th birthday, is still well known in our community and in our State. He recently moved to Wilmington VA Medical Center's Community Living Center, where he quickly became a favorite among the residents, staff, and veterans.

Stan still loves Tastykake treats and is widely known to be a bit of a card sharp who enjoys a game of Blackjack. Besides his interest in playing cards, he recently discovered his talent as an artist. In the last year alone, Stan has painted more than a dozen works of art. Folk who know Stan know him to be a loving, caring, social, and extremely positive person.

In summary, Stanley "Lucky" Lawruk is truly part of our Greatest Generation. I offer him my thanks for his sacrifices for family, for State, for country, and for humanity.

Stan, on behalf of a grateful nation, thank you for your dedicated service.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF GE BANGOR

• Ms. COLLINS. Madam President, in 1969, General Electric opened a factory in Bangor, ME. At that time, it was a small operation using old machinery to produce components for turbines that powered only 7,000 homes. Today, 50 years later, the skilled workers at GE Power manufacture equipment that powers more than 1 million homes. I am delighted to congratulate this outstanding company and its dedicated workforce on their golden anniversary.

GE Power is a center of excellence for steam turbine rotors and blading. It specializes in gas turbine component manufacturing, which is especially important as natural gas has become an essential contributor to America's growing energy independence and has helped reduce harmful emissions. As this facility has grown, so has its global reputation for innovation and problem solving.

That reputation is earned every day by the nearly 400 employees at GE Power. Their ingenuity and dedication have made their plant one of Bangor's most significant employers. They have embraced GE's companywide ethic of philanthropy and service to others, and they contribute to their community in countless ways.

The General Electric Company was founded in 1892 by Thomas Alva Edi-

son. The famed inventor and electricity pioneer could well have had Bangor in mind when he said, "The three great essentials to achieve anything are hard work, stick-to-itiveness, and common sense." The men and women of GE Power demonstrate those essentials every day, creating opportunity for themselves and our city, and I congratulate them on this landmark anniversary.●

##### 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TWIN FALLS AMERICAN LEGION POST 7

• Mr. RISCH. Madam President, along with my colleagues Senator MIKE CRAPO and Representative MIKE SIMPSON, I congratulate the American Legion Post 7 in Twin Falls, ID, on its 100th anniversary.

On March 15, 1919, the first American Legion caucus was held in Paris, France, in the wake of World War I. Just a few months later, in June of 1919, the American Legion Post 7 in Twin Falls, ID, was chartered. On September 16, 1919, Congress established the American Legion as a federally chartered corporation. As you can tell, those men in Twin Falls wasted no time answering the call in peacetime as they had in time of war, as veterans so often do. The low post number, post No. 7, shows the veterans of Twin Falls were one of the earliest to request and receive a charter in the Idaho Department.

The Twin Falls American Legion Post 7 has been around to help veterans from WWI, WWII, Korea, Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan, and other U.S. engagements and activities. A remarkable record of accomplishment of service and support to our troops and veterans.

In addition, you will see post 7 members serving on Memorial Day, Veterans Day, veteran funerals, and many other community events as the color guard, providing 21-gun salutes, or playing taps on the bugle. They quietly provide support to grieving military families, injured veterans, and patriotic citizens.

Twin Falls American Legion Post 7 is part of the fabric and spirit of Twin Falls and the surrounding communities. They provide assistance and service to veterans by helping them to understand and apply for benefits, find jobs, and healthcare services. In addition, they are involved in many programs and community activities such as American Legion Baseball, Boys State, Oratorical Contests, and scholarship awards. Post 7 also has a women's auxiliary that sponsors the Girls State Program and serves in many capacities in the community.

The Preamble of the American Legion Constitution speaks volumes about the quality and patriotism of American Legion members. The first few lines of the preamble make evident these values: "For God and Country we Associate Ourselves together for the following purposes: To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United

States of America; To maintain law and order; To foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism . . .”

We thank Twin Falls American Legion Post 7 and its membership for their outstanding service to community, country, and America's veterans. Congratulations on 100 years of achievements. We commit to ensure veterans have access to the highest quality services worthy of their remarkable dedication to our Nation.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Roberts, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

#### REPORT ON THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13219 OF JUNE 26, 2001, WITH RESPECT TO THE WESTERN BALKANS—PM 20

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days before the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to the Western Balkans that was declared in Executive Order 13219 of June 26, 2001, is to continue in effect beyond June 26, 2019.

The threat constituted by the actions of persons engaged in, or assisting, sponsoring, or supporting (i) extremist violence in the former Republic of Macedonia (what is now the Republic of North Macedonia) and elsewhere in the Western Balkans region, or (ii) acts ob-

structing implementation of the Dayton Accords in Bosnia or United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 of June 10, 1999, in Kosovo, has not been resolved. In addition, Executive Order 13219 was amended by Executive Order 13304 of May 28, 2003, to take additional steps with respect to acts obstructing implementation of the Ohrid Framework Agreement of 2001 relating to the former Republic of Macedonia (what is now the Republic of North Macedonia).

The acts of extremist violence and obstructionist activity outlined in these Executive Orders are hostile to United States interests and continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency with respect to the Western Balkans.

DONALD J. TRUMP.  
THE WHITE HOUSE, June 18, 2019.

#### EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. CRAPO for the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

\*Ian Paul Steff, of Indiana, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Director General of the United States and Foreign Commercial Service.

\*Michelle Bowman, of Kansas, to be a Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for a term of fourteen years from February 1, 2020.

\*Allison Herren Lee, of Colorado, to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission for a term expiring June 5, 2022.

\*Thomas Peter Feddo, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Investment Security.

\*Paul Shmotolokha, of Washington, to be First Vice President of the Export-Import Bank of the United States for a term expiring January 20, 2021.

\*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. UDALL (for himself and Mr. HEINRICH):

S. 1875. A bill to amend the Aamodt Litigation Settlement Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself and Mr. BENNET):

S. 1876. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to establish uniform standards for the use of electronic signatures with re-

spect to any request for disclosure of a taxpayer's return or return information to a practitioner; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LANKFORD (for himself, Ms. HASSAN, and Mr. JOHNSON):

S. 1877. A bill to establish procedures and consequences in the event of a failure to complete regular appropriations; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. WARREN (for herself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. MARKEY):

S. 1878. A bill to establish universal child care and early learning programs; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. HAWLEY:

S. 1879. A bill to call on the Secretary of Homeland Security to lead a task force to address the threat of foreign government influence and threats to academic research integrity on college campuses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. BLUNT, and Ms. STABENOW):

S. 1880. A bill to support the provision of treatment family care services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. YOUNG (for himself and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 1881. A bill to provide PreCheck to certain severely injured or disabled veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. DAINES:

S. 1882. A bill to make available the continued use of Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program project use power by the Kinsey Irrigation Company and the Sidney Water Users Irrigation District, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 1883. A bill to improve the prohibitions on money laundering, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 1884. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an enhanced research credit for the development of smart gun technologies; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. REED:

S. 1885. A bill to ensure that irresponsible corporate executives, rather than shareholders, pay fines and penalties; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself and Mr. CRAMER):

S. 1886. A bill to restrict security assistance to Lebanon, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. PAUL:

S. 1887. A bill to streamline the application process for H-2A employers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself and Mr. WARNER):

S. 1888. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to allow the Secretary of Education to create a pilot program to award College in High School Pell Grants; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. 1889. A bill to ensure that persons who form corporations in the United States disclose the beneficial owners of those corporations, in order to prevent the formation of